HF Happenings

The photograph in HF Happenings 522 was taken at the Koeksister monument in Orania in the Northern Cape. I do not think there is an English name for a koeksister

A koeksister or koesister comes from the Dutch word *koekje*, which translates to "cookie." It is a South African syrup-coated doughnut in a twisted or braided shape (like a plait). It is prepared by deep-frying dough in oil, then dipping the fried dough into cold sugar syrup. Koeksisters are very sticky, sweet and taste like honey.

Koeksisters are of the Cape Malay origin. The Afrikaner version is much more syrupy and crisp while the Cape Malay version's texture is more like that of a cake, spicier and usually covered in dried coconut.

Heritage Day Sprint

The aim is to stimulate activity on 40 m and to promote public relations with respect to the various Heritage sites in South Africa on 24 September – Heritage Day. The activity starts at 10:00 UTC and ends at 13:00 UTC (12:00 to 15:00 CAT).

Only frequencies in the following segments may be used. CW: 7 000 to 7 025 kHz; phone: 7 060 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz. A maximum output power of 100 W is allowed. The exchange is call sign, RS(T) signal report, a serial number commencing with 001 and the letter indicating the station type - B for blockhouses, H for other heritage sites and G for general stations. Example: 59 001 B.

You can participate as a Blockhouse (B) station; a Heritage (H) station or a General (G) station. For stations at blockhouses and heritage sites, field station rules apply as per the SARL blue book. The scoring is - CW - 12 points for every contact with a station at a South African blockhouse or other heritage site and 4 points for every other station. Phone - 8 points for every contact with a station at a South African block house or other heritage site (including any historical site) and 2 points for every other station.

The multipliers are Blockhouse (B) and Heritage (H) stations use a multiplier of 3 (x 3); General (G) stations use no multiplier (x 1)

Electronic logs are required and may be in any standard logging format or MS Excel. No paper logs, scanned images or .pdf files will be accepted, except as check logs. Example logs are available on request and on the ZS4SRK website at http://www.qsl.net/zs4srk. The logs must be

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e-mailed to riaanzs4pr@gmail.com and send a copy to zs6fz@webmail.co.za. The closing date for log submissions is 9 October 2012.

SARL 80 m Club Championship

A series of short weekday evening contests on 80 m based around competition between affiliated radio clubs. Individual scores in every event count towards a radio club's overall score so it is important for the club to get members to come on in as many sessions and as many modes as possible.

From 17:30 to 18:30 UTC on Wednesday evening 26 September 2012, the SSB contest will be on the air. The exchange is a RS report and a serial number starting at 001. You can participate as a Single Operator or Multi-operator station with activity on 3 600 – 3 650 kHz and 3 700 –3 775 kHz. Each QSO counts one point.

Each session is a contest in its own right, and log entries must be submitted to zs4bfn@netactive.co.za within seven (7) days of the contest, thus 23:59:59 CAT 3 October 2012.

Republic of Kosovo

The following was posted on QRZ.com [edited]: Z60K Republic of Kosovo, Amateur Radio Association of Kosovo, SHRAK, Pristina, Republic of Kosovo. QSL: VIA G3TXF

Monday, 10 September 2012, marked the end of supervised independence of the Republic of Kosovo, a European country with a population of 2 million, and the beginning of its status as a fully sovereign state. The ceremonies featured a keynote address by a former UN Envoy for Kosovo, President Martti Ahtisaari of Finland, an architect of the 26 March 2007, Comprehensive Proposal for the Kosovo Status Settlement, which now came to its completion.

In his speech at Monday's special session of the Kosovo Parliament, President Ahtisaari stated, "Five years ago I offered to the Secretary-General of the United Nations a blueprint for a sovereign, multi-ethnic democracy called Kosovo. Today we celebrate the full and final adoption of the principles and structures of that blueprint into the institutions, the processes and the legal framework of an independent, functioning state."

Pursuant to the Settlement Proposal, an International Steering Group (ISG) - consisting of twenty-five countries - was formed to oversee and guide the development of good governance, multi-ethnicity and rule of law in Kosovo. The ISG has now completed its duties, allowing Kosovo to continue with full sovereignty and the management of its own affairs as a member of the world community.

This is now the overall state of affairs regarding Kosovo's formal status, which enables the country to pursue its chosen course independently into the future. Kosovo is now an independent country, which must be honoured as such.

As of today, 91 countries, including most of the industrialised world, such as USA, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom and France along with the Benelux and Nordic countries have

September
21 to 24 – White Mountain Festival, Giant's Castle, Drakensberg
22 and 23 – Rocking for Rhinos, Hoedspruit
22 to 24 – Hogsback Spring Saunter
24 – Heritage Day; National Braai Day; SARL Heritage Day Contest
26 – SARL Club Contest, SSB
27 – World Tourism Day
27 to 29 – Kalahari Kuierfees, Upington
28 – Schools close

October
4 – SARL 80 m QSO Party; World Habitat Day
8 – Schools open
13 and 14 – AWA Valve QSO Party
18 – Radio Amateur Examination
20 – Spring QRP Contest; National Marine Day
20 – CQ Hou Koers – Voortrekkers
20 and 21 – Jamboree on the Air / Jamboree on the Internet
27 and 28 – CQ WW DX SSB Contest
31 Oct to 3 Nov – Cape Town Military Tattoo

recognised the Republic of Kosovo. These powers have endorsed the final settlement, the fulfilment of which is now celebrated in Kosovo's capital Prishtina.

An Amateur Radio working group headed by IARU Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, and including IARU Region 1 Executive Committee Member Nikola Percin, 9A5W, and Mission Goodwill Kosovo Coordinator Martti Laine, OH2BH, together with their associates are in the final stages of assisting Kosovo's Telecom Authorities in drafting regulations governing Amateur Radio in Kosovo, to bring the original Kosovar operators and their revitalised Amateur Radio Association back to the international community.

http://www.voanews.com/content/supervised-independence-ends-in-kosovo/1505339.html

Jamboree-on-the-Air / CQ Hou Koers

Scouts and Guides will be participating worldwide in the 55th Jamboree-on-the-Air and 16th Jamboree-on-the-Internet on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 October 2012. This year's theme is "How big is your world?"

The Voortrekkers in South Africa and Namibia will be participating in CQ Hou Koers on Saturday 20 October.

However, for these young people to actively participate they need YOUR help! Yes, you Mr/Mrs/Miss Radio Amateur! Make contact with your local Scout Group, Guide Company and/or Voortrekker Commando and offer them your assistance. Then start planning your field station at the Scout, Guide and/or Voortrekker campsite.

DO NOT INVITE them to your shack; visiting a dentist would be more exciting! Do not be lazy, get out and take your radios on an outing!

2011 CQ WW DX Results

The August 2012 issue of CQ Magazine carries the results of the 2011 CQ WW DX SSB Contest and a number of Southern African stations are mentioned. Each year the list becomes longer!

Single Operator
Angola
D2QV – 28 MHz high power, made 1 007 265 points from 2 307 QSOs, 36 zones and 123 countries

Madagascar
5R8A – 28 MHz high power, made 389 499 points from 1 153 QSOs, 29 zones and 92 countries
5R8UI – 28 MHz low power, made 3 264 points from 106 QSOs, 8 zones and 16 countries

Mozambique
C91KHN – All band high power, made 80 630 points from 266 QSOs, 39 zones and 71 countries

Namibia
V5/NZ2P – All band high power, made 70 560 points from 246 QSOs, 29 zones and 83 countries (operator DJ2OV)
Andrew Thompson, V51YJ, all band low power, made 982 762 points from 1 412 QSOs, 71 zones and 171 countries

South Africa

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AJ Damatta, ZS6GF, all band high power, made 269 862 points from 429 QSOs, 84 zones and 162 countries

Donovan van Loggerenberg, ZS2DL, all band high power, made 167 127 points from 525 QSOs, 36 zones and 77 countries

Quartus de Witt, ZS6EE, 28 MHz high power, made 233 100 points from 656 QSOs, 33 zones and 93 countries

Pierre van Deventer, ZS6A, 28 MHz high power, made 39 246 points from 178 QSOs, 26 zones and 67 countries

Barney Fourie, ZS6TQ, 14 MHz high power, made 477 247 points from 1 133 QSOs, 36 zones and 113 countries

Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, all band low power, made 67 678 points from 174 QSOs, 59 zones and 78 countries

Jacques le Roux, ZS1JY all band low power, made 39 456 points from 148 QSOs, 39 zones and 57 countries

Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, all band low power, made 14 820 points from 72 QSOs, 30 zones and 46 countries

Evan Seligman, ZS6ELI, all band low power, made 12 529 points from 68 QSOs, 28 zones and 39 countries

Chris von Wechmar, ZS1DX, all band low power, made 6 960 points from 45 QSOs, 28 zones and 30 countries

Zimbabwe
Z21BB – all band high power, made 934 505 points from 1 404 QSOs, 63 zones and 148 countries

Assisted
Namibia
V55A - 28 MHZ made 1 134 984 points from 2 615 QSOs, 25 zones and 117 countries (operated by V31MA)

South Africa
Peter Brown, ZS5ZZ, all band high power, made 24 960 points from 100 QSOs, 39 zones and 57 countries

Fred Andreas, ZS5SAM, all band low power, made 187 887 points from 444 QSOs, 51 zones and 110 countries

Multi operator Single transmitter
South Africa
Gary Potgieter, ZS5NK (and friends) made 690 816 points from 987 QSOs, 74 zones and 183 countries

In the September 2012 issue of CQ magazine, the results of the 2011 CQ WW DX CW Contest appears. In addition, the winner of the Single Operator, Single Band, World 28 MHz trophy comes from South Africa!

Single Operator
Angola
D2QV – 28 MHz low power, made 1 477 440 points from 3 177 QSOs, 37 zones and 123 countries

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Mozambique
C91NW – All band high power, made 7 995 200 points from 5 266 QSOs, 135 zones and 391 countries

Namibia
Andrew Thompson, V51YJ, all band low power, made 1 073 100 points from 1 278 QSOs, 79 zones and 215 countries
V5/DJ4SO, all band low power, made 1 043 112 points from 1 241 QSOs, 79 zones and 215 countries

South Africa
Donovan van Loggerenberg, ZS2DL, all band high power, made 1 076 940 points from 1 397 QSOs, 79 zones and 200 countries
Bernie van der Walt, ZS4TX, 28 MHz high power, made 2 208 429 points from 4 249 QSOs, 38 zones and 139 countries to take the Single Operator, Single Band, World 28 MHz trophy
Vidi la grange, ZS1EL, 28 MHz high power, made 365 620 points from 1 237 QSOs, 24 zones and 77 countries
Johan van Aarde, ZS2I, all band low power, made 418 841 points from 731 QSOs, 66 zones and 163 countries
Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, all band low power, made 276 955 points from 476 QSOs, 74 zones and 131 countries
Jacques le Roux, ZS1JY all band low power, made 99 085 points from 261 QSOs, 57 zones and 76 countries
Joop Hesp, ZS6C, all band low power, made 20 444 points from 136 QSOs, 34 zones and 42 countries
Quartus de Witt, ZS6EE, all band low power, made 360 points from 11 QSOs, 5 zones and 10 countries

Assisted
South Africa
Pierre van Deventer, ZS6A, 28 MHz high power, made 25 410 points from 140 points, 22 zones and 55 countries

Check log – Bruce Dunn, ZS5XT

DARC Contest Logbook and performance diplomas

Foreign radio amateurs are increasingly using the excellent opportunities for easy application of the German DARC performance diplomas using the DARC Contest Logbook and are particularly fond of the combination of the DCL with LotW and eQSL.

VE3FWA thanks DF8AA, manager of the WAE award, with following words, "Some remarks on the DCL. What you have created here is incredible. No one but the DARC can connect eQSL, LotW and Contestlog to apply for diplomas. Really great! It is also a pleasure to use. Otherwise, I would have not been able to collect all the necessary QSL cards for the DARC awards. Thank you for setting up this system. 73! Ed, VE3FWA"

In his "SV5DKL amateur radio blog", SV5DKL even presents his recently received EU-DX-D 1000 Trophy, his Europe RTTY Diploma (EURD) and other DARC awards that he could apply for only by using the DCL. This is not only a good achievement but also proof to the excellent acceptance of the DARC Contest Logbook. See
http://sv5dkl.blogspot.de/2012_08_01_archive.html

This might be also an additional motivation for award collectors to participate in a contest since many logs are uploaded to the DCL as well. As a result, the application of awards is very much simplified. The DARC Contest Logbook can be found at http://www.dxhf.darc.de/~dcl

RSARS e-docs Library

The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society (RSARS) has made available a number of articles in PDF format. In their e-docs library is an extensive collection of articles on HF Antennas and Projects. See the RSARS e-docs library at http://www.rsars.org.uk/ELIBRARY/edocs.htm

DXCC News

Bill Moore, NC1L, the ARRL Awards Branch Manager reports that the following operations are approved for DXCC credit:

3B8/IW5ELA – Mauritius Island, 2012 Operation
4O7VB – Montenegro, 2012 Operation
9A8VB – Croatia, 2012 Operation
E40VB – Palestine, 2012 Operation
E7/UA4WHX – Bosnia-Herzegovina, 2012 Operation
EY8/UA4WHX – Tajikistan, 2012 Operation
JY8VB – Jordan, 2012 Operation
UN/UA4WHX – Kazakhstan, 2012 Operation
YU9VB – Serbia, 2012 Operation
Z38VB – Macedonia, 2012 Operation
ZA/UA4WHX – Albania, 2012 Operation

Thanks Tjerk, ZS6P

Super Check Partial database

Bob, WA1Z, says a new release of the Super Check Partial database files is now available at http://www.supercheckpartial.com. Calls in the MASTER.DTA file – 43 474 and calls in the MASTERTTY.DTA file – 11 897

New releases will be done prior to both CQ WW SSB and CQ WW CW over the next couple of months. If you would like to contribute your Cabrillo format logs for the SCP database, please send them at any time. The easiest thing to do is to cc logs at supercheckpartial.com when you submit your log to the sponsor's robot after each contest.

In addition, if you have any VHF+ contest logs, Dave, W9ZRX, maintains a VHF+-only SCP Database. You can cc your VHF+ contest logs submissions to zephd@indy.rr.com. The VHF SCP website is http://www.k3lr.com/w9zrx/ (the last slash is important).

If you want to check the version of the SCP files you are using, look for a call beginning with "VER". Every SCP file includes the version number in the list of calls VERYYYYMMDD

African DX

Tanzania, 5H. Noel, WB0VGI, informs OPDX that he will arrive in Tanzania on 18 September. However, he will be settling in and touring the country first before operating. He suspects that he will not be able to operate until at least 8 October and will be active as 5H3NP from Iringa until 15 December. His plan is to operate 20, 15 and 10 metres initially. Noel will have to build a

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WARC band antenna if he can find the room. Operations will be on CW, SSB and PSK. QSL via his home call sign.

South Sudan, Z8. Jim, K7QI, reports on QRZ.com that he has received his call sign, as well as Diya, YI1DZ. Their call signs are Z81A (Jim) and Z81D (Diya) and are good for one year. Jim is now living and working in Juba, while Diya is a UN WFP telecom worker there. The two operators will soon meet and pool their resources together to help bring Amateur radio to South Sudan.

Jim states on QRZ.com that "most all of Juba has no electricity and the house I've rented is the same. My company is in the process of ordering two generators. I am scheduled to fly back home on 25 September 2012, and will return to Juba around late October or early November. I still need to select HF equipment and VHF equipment, and will bring the equipment back with me once I have selected the equipment. I am a member of AMSAT back home and am planning to become active on AMSAT from here. Once I am set up and operating, I plan on being highly active, and will be on just about everyday. So please be patient, and I will be on very soon."

Meanwhile, Diya, Z81D, has a station already set up and ready to go. Jim states, "Thanks to his kindness, we both will be using his station until I can get my station set up." By the way, Diya was heard on the air for the first time on 13 September around 17:45 UTC operating 17 metres SSB. The QSL Manager for Z81A is Frank Remington, K7GSE. Please send a SASE with 2 green stamps or 1 valid IRC to Frank. The QSL Manager for Diya, YI1DZ (Z81D), is Stefan, OM3JW.

To see pictures of both licenses and Diya's radio shack located at Nyakuron South, Juba, see "DX-World.net" at http://dx-world.net/2012/z81a-z81d-republic-of-south-sudan

Added Note: Both operators are now active and have been on 20, 17 and 15 metres SSB.

Senegal, 6W. Enrico, IK2FIL, will be active as 6V7X from Le Calao using his Elecraft K3 plus amplifier from 24 September until 4 October. He plans to join the upcoming WW DX RTTY Contest (29 and 30 September) in the single Op/low power category. QSL via GlobalQSL, LoTW, eQSL. See also http://6v7x.jimdo.com

African Islands

Rodrigues Island, 3B9. A team of nine operators from Switzerland will be active as 3B9SP from Rodrigues Island (AF-017) between 16 and 23 October. They plan to have three stations active on 160 to 6 metres CW, SSB and RTTY/PSK31. QSL via HB9ACA, direct or bureau (an OQRS for either direct and bureau cards will be activated on Club Log), and LoTW "within 6 months after the DX operation". Further information can be found at http://hb9fr.ch/3b9sp

Zanzibar Island, 5H. Harald, DL7VSN, will be active again from Zanzibar Island (AF-032) signing 5H1HS from 23 September until 13 October. He also plans a short trip to "Lazy Lagoon Island" (no IOTA) as 5H1HS/3. QSL via DL7VSN.

Special Event Stations

Contest Calendar
This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 17 to 24 September 2012.

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NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
00:30 - 02:30 UTC 20 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once
Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 23 September 2012
E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net
Upload log at: http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html
Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA
Find rules at: http://naqcc.info/sprint201209.html

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 21 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23 September 2012
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

AGB NEMIGA Contest
21:00 - 24:00 UTC 21 September
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op – CW, SSB or mixed; Single Op Mixed QRP; Multi-Op; Digital; One Hour; SWL
Exchange: AGB Member: RST, QSO no and member no; non-Member: RST and QSO no
Work stations: Once per mode per 15-minute period (see rules)
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; 5 points per QSO with AGB member
Multipliers: Each AGB member once; Each DXCC/WAE country once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 21 October 2012
E-mail logs to: eu1eu@mail.ru
Mail logs to: Igor "Harry" Getmann, EU1EU, PO Box 143, Minsk 220005, Belarus

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Find rules at: http://www.ev5agb.com/contest/agb_nemiga.htm

FOC QSO Party
00:00 - 23:59 UTC 22 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: FOC-Member: RST, name and member no; non-Members: RST and name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: FOC-Member: Score = Total QSOs/Total Member QSOs; non-Member: Score = Total Member QSOs
Submit logs by: 6 October 2012
E-mail log summary to: kz5d@aol.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://g4foc.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1143601

BARTG Sprint 75
17:00 - 21:00 UTC 23 September
Mode: 75 Baud RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op Expert; Single Op All Band
Exchange: Serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: DXCC countries once regardless of band; JA, W, VE and VK areas once regardless of band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x continents
Submit logs by: 31 October 2012
E-mail logs to: logs@bartg.org.uk
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.bartg.org.uk/documents/contests/sprint75/rules/2012/bartg-autumn-sprint75-rules.pdf

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 – 02:00 UTC 26 September
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 26 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 27 September
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 27 September
NCCC Sprint 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 28 September
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY 00:00 UTC 29 September to 24:00 UTC 30 September
Texas QSO Party 14:00 UTC 29 September to 02:00 UTC 30 September and 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 30 September
ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 2 October

History This Week

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A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 17 September 2012.

1852 - A new invention, the dirigible, is demonstrated
1859 - Patent granted on the electric range
1879 - Baldwin steam motors tram first tried in Sydney Australia
1893 - Frank Duryea drives first US made gas propelled car
1895 - First auto manufacturer opens - Duryea Motor Wagon Company
1955 - Commercial TV begins in England
1956 - First transatlantic telephone cable goes into operation
1957 - First underground nuclear explosion (Las Vegas Nevada)

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC